

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Tel: 0212028663  
Email: [sngcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:sngcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 21735

Date: Wednesday August 23, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

### **In terms of Section of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Rhino Solar (Pty) Ltd

101 Block A Building, 7 West Quay Rd, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, 8001

**Rhino Solar PV (Pty) Ltd (the “Applicant”) has proposed the development of the 65 MW Rhino Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Project north-west of Rustenburg, in the North West Province (the “Project”). The Project Area is located approximately 10km west of Rasimone and 30km north-west of Rustenburg’s central business district (CBD). The site falls within the Kgetlengrivier Local Municipality (KLM) and the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality (BPDM). The electricity generated by the Project will be transferred via up to 132 kV powerlines from the Eskom collector switching station, located adjacent to the facility substation, to the grid network.**

Rhino Solar PV (PTY) LTD appointed Nemai Consulting (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of the 65 MW Leeuwspruit Solar 2 Rhino Solar Photovoltaic Project north-west of Rustenburg, North West Province (14/12/16/3/3/2/2321).

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2017 amended NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development area is approximately 125 ha for alternative one and two with the internal roads and the access roads of 6 m and 8 m wide including a 132 kV powerline of up to 750 m to the grid connection. Two alternative layouts have been provided for the Rhino Solar PV project footprint: Alternative 1, with a powerline/grid connection running North-west from the north-west corner; and Alternative 2, with a slightly reduced PV footprint and a powerline/grid connection running south from the southwest corner.

Nitai Consulting and Banzai Environmental were appointed to provide heritage specialist input for the as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). The heritage report undertaken by Nitai Consulting has not been attached to the development application on SAHRIS.

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*Butler, E. 2023. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for the Proposed 65MW Rhino Solar Photovoltaic Project North West Of Rustenburg, North West Province*

The study area (both of the development alternatives) is underlain by Quaternary surface deposits as well as the Silverton Formation (Pretoria Group, Transvaal Supergroup). Pleistocene vertebrate fossils and plant microfossils which are associated with spring and pan deposits may be present in the quaternary deposits and organic-walled microfossils may be present in the Silverton Formation. Based on the desktop research, it is concluded that fossil heritage of scientific and conservational interest in the development footprint is rare, and no significant impacts are expected to impact the Operational and Decommissioning phases. There is no preference between the alternatives from a Palaeontological Perspective.

*Kitto, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment: Rhino Solar PV (Pty) Ltd Proposed 65MW Rhino Solar Photovoltaic Project, North West Of Rustenburg, North-West Province*

No heritage resources were identified within and adjacent to the project footprint (for either the Alternative 1 or Alternative 2 layouts). No Mitigation recommendations are required.

## **Final Comment**

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA Report and EMPr:

38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Application Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;

38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No Further conditions are recommended for the development;

38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA DAU Unit (Sityhilelo Ngcatsha/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of

**Proposed 65 MW Rhino Solar Photovoltaic Project north-west of Rustenburg,  
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the Schedule;

38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DAU Unit (Sityhilelo Ngcatsha/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;

38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;

The Final EIA report and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;

The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Assistant  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

# Proposed 65 MW Rhino Solar Photovoltaic Project north-west of Rustenburg, North West Province

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/619596>  
(DFFE, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2321)

## Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.